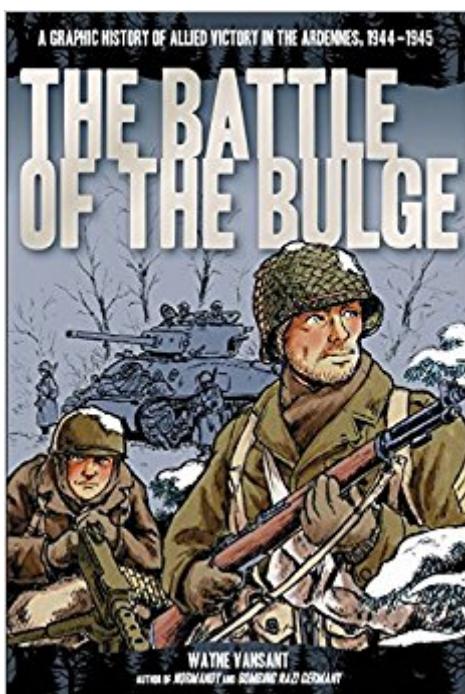


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# **Battle Of The Bulge: A Graphic History Of Allied Victory In The Ardennes, 1944-1945 (Graphic Histories)**



## Synopsis

Fought in the winter of 1944-1945, the coldest season in over 100 years, the Battle of the Bulge still ranks as the single largest battle ever fought by the United States Army. Thirty-one American divisions - fully one-third of the U.S. Army raised during World War II - saw action in this battle. This battle was truly a test: could this conscript army from a pacifistic democracy defeat the best remaining men and machines that Germany's totalitarian government could produce? In "Battle of the Bulge," author and artist Wayne Vansant brings readers into the frozen foxholes, haunting forests, and devastated villages of the Ardennes during that freezing cold winter. With meticulous historical accuracy and hand-drawn visuals that can tell a story in ways words alone cannot, Vansant recounts the Bulge with insightful detail, replaying the thrusts and volleys of both the combined Allied and German forces during the tumultuous battle. This is a story of panic, fear, and physical misery; a story of how a generation of draftees, National Guardsmen, and a small core of regular officers and NCOs faced those three elements as snow piled around their foxholes and the incessant drumming of artillery splintered the woods that gave them shelter. It is the story of men, frozen and hurting, far from home and holding little hope of seeing it again until the killing finally ended. Above all, "The Battle of the Bulge" is a story of incredible triumph, now beautifully illustrated in graphic novel format for the first time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Upâ "The creator of the Normandy (2012), Bombing Nazi Germany (2013), and The Red Baron (2014, all Zenith) graphic novels, now addresses the major battle that led to Germany's surrender. The photo-realistic and full-color illustrationsâ "Dwight D. Eisenhower, Adolf Hitler, and other major players are authentically capturedâ "add gravity. This work is factual and mostly neutral, not going into the reasons behind the war, only the military strategies employed by each side. Though the book lacks a time line, the maps and detailed descriptions of the tanks used are a nice feature. A useful resource in exploring this historic battle and a fine edition to classrooms as well as libraries. Purchase of the previous titles is recommended for a complete look at the war.â "Sarah Knutson, American Canyon Middle School, CA --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

"In this sixth military-themed graphic novel for Zenith, Vansant ("The Red Baron") literally sketches out an introductory work on one of the most important battles of World War II. He proceeds in a mostly chronological manner, beginning with Hitler's concept for the offensive named "Watch on the Rhine" in September 1944 through the official end of the fight on January 16, 1945. His narrative is broad, ranging from policy decisions at the strategic level and movements of particular units down to actions of small groups or individuals. He mentions atrocities on both sides. The book provides a series of maps that help give a sense of where distinct actions occurred in relation to one another. Verdict This book could serve as a useful introduction to the battle for adult or teen readers." "- Library Journal" --Library Journal

When I was a kid, like all the other kids, I read and even traded comic books...but, I guess the history teacher was already developong inside me...I started to collect more and trade less...and not Archie or Micky Mouse comics were the ones I saved. I kept the history related ones, especially WW I, II, and Korea. GI Combat, Our Army At War, and so on were the ones. My pals were the crew of the Haunted Tank, Gunner and Sarge, Sargeant Rock and the rest of the gang. There were two series of comic books that I knew of then, in the 1950s that were the ancestors of the graphic novels of today. I cannot remember the publishers of both, but one was DELL. They both employed an artist named Sam Glantzman, a WWII veteran himself. His art was super detailed and accurate. Wayne Vansant carries on the tradition. Other reviewers have mostly praised the series of "Graphic Novel History books" he is creating. I agree with their positive comments 100 %. I can really find nothing in the works to criticize, and I notice younger kids are reading these too...not a bad situation, given the fact that the non-educators who drive American education are cutting back on a lot of US history, as well as material in all subjects. If this will get the young adults to learn and question

events in history, all the better! Again, I cannot recommend these any more positively. I hope Mr. Vansant has a long list of future volumes as well done as those so far. Many thanks to for making them available, and they arrived in perfect condition .

Vansant's drawings humanize a lot of the action and episodes I've read about again and again in all the histories of the Ardennes Offensive ('The Battle of the Bulge'). I particularly liked the one of Model and von Runstedt sharing their private reservations about Hitler's overly ambitious plans. The whole sequence of Hitler unveiling his plans to the staff is highly dramatic as are the battlefield scenes at the Twin Villages and along Col. Jochen Peiper's march route. Of course, if you're a Bulge enthusiast, you may disagree with some of the details and emphasis in Vansant's cartoon narrative, but as a good general introduction and chronology for younger readers and even adult audiences, this handy little volume is excellent. Wish Hollywood would use Vansant's story boards to produce a really dramatic rendering of the Battle of the Bulge instead of all the historically inaccurate films out there.

I was intrigued by the idea that graphic books would take on subjects like these, with a level of detail intended for adults. This is probably the most complete and clear account of the Battle of the Bulge that I have ever read, and its graphic treatment makes it both fast-moving and vivid. You get a real feel for the terrain, the weather, the geography, and the positions and movements of both Allied and German units. I think a lot of history lends itself to this kind of treatment, and there are readers who will enjoy it, who would never pick up some doorstop of a history tome about the same subject. I would recommend this, including for high school or even good-reading middle school students. Reading it took me back to two different experiences: reading Classic Comics treatments of novels, and, stylistically, the Sergeant Rock and Sergeant Fury comic book series of my youth, that visually portrayed World War II for kids.

Wayn Vansant provides a terrific overview and history of one of the decisive battles of World War II. Brilliantly planned and executed, Hitler's surprise assault nearly succeeded. Only Hitler's hubris and inability to compromise his vision caused it to fail. Along the way we meet all of the major players on all sides, from the heroic African American soldiers to the insufferable British commander Montgomery. Minor, yet significant moments get their turn in the spotlight as do the major turning points. The author also does not stint on the atrocities committed by BOTH sides. If you are a novice to World War II history or want to view a story that you are familiar with in a new and

compelling way, this is the book for you.

I bought this for our 9 yo son who is fascinated at this time with WWII history. These history comic books share knowledge in a way that's captivating for boys who don't necessarily enjoy reading chapter books. Our son learns a lot and shares with us what he's learned. These books aren't in the school or public libraries at this time, so you'll need to purchase them until they're available to check out.

Was very hard to read in the format of a comic book. Enjoyed the story line; however, on Kindle the letters were sometimes quite small

Great book! Love the artwork.

It's a comic book, not what I thought I was getting

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